HOUSE No. 845

By Mr. Fagan of Taunton, petition of James H. Fagan relative to the extension of certain restraining orders without notice to defendants. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO EXTENDING CERTAIN RESTRAINING ORDERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Section 3 of chapter 209A of the General Laws, as appearing in
- 2 the 2002 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, in line
- 3 15 after the word "abuse" the following words:— provided, how-
- 4 ever, that if the defendant has been convicted of violating the
- 5 plaintiff's restraining order, the court may extend such restraining
- 6 order as of right without requiring notice to the defendant or the
- 7 appearance of the plaintiff in court.